



TOWN OF CHESHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
 19 WALLINGFORD ROAD, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT 06410
 Telephone (203) 271-6690 Fax (203) 271-6626
 Email: yellowhouse@cheshirect.org



Yellow House Programs & Activities WINTER 2024



NEW WEBSITE for REGISTRATION and online Payment!

<https://cheshirect.myrec.com>

Please contact Cheshire Youth Services with questions
 E-mail: yellowhouse@cheshirect.org / call: (203) 271-6691

TEEN VOLUNTEERS (9TH-12TH GR.) NEEDED FOR PROGRAMS! SIGN-UP USING THE MyRec.com LINK ABOVE

Youth Literacy Program

Grades: K - 2

Fee: \$40.00 (residents)



Saturday mornings 1/6/24 – 2/10/24 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

A reading partnership between High School students and Kindergarten – 2nd graders to help promote confidence & strengthen literacy skills.

This series of our Youth Literacy Program is designed to promote reading confidence and encourage a positive experience with books among students in kindergarten through second grade. Each student will work with their mentor to explore different winter related themes with their helper each week. Each day children will also participate in a craft, themed worksheets, group activity, or an indoor game, and a snack. *(enrollment minimum 10 / max 15 participants)*

Crazy 8's Math Club

Grades: 3 - 5

Fee: FREE (residents only)



Saturday afternoons 1/13/24 – 2/10/24 12:45 p.m.-2:15 p.m.

A get-up and move math club to show kids that math is fun and recreational, in order to change our culture and get kids to think of math as fun. We welcome all kids, those who enjoy math as well as those that may need a little extra math motivation. The club is designed to help kids appreciate the math that's all around them. It is facilitated by Yellow House staff and teen volunteers. The program aims to reduce anxiety around math, build confidence, and to turn math into a social bonding activity.

(enrollment min. 8 / max 15 participants)

Youth Literacy Program

Grades: 1 & 2

Fee: FREE (residents only)



Series: Culture, Compassion, Kindness & Courage

Saturday mornings 2/24/24 – 3/23/24 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

A reading partnership between High School students 1st & 2nd graders to help promote kindness while strengthening literacy skills.



This series was created to introduce young readers to an array of multicultural books and authors that spark meaningful conversations around diversity, kindness, and courage. Each week young readers will work with a teen reading buddy to help strengthen their literacy confidence while helping to develop critical thinking skills. Readers and their teen reading buddy will also complete fun crafts and activities that will reflect the theme of the day. *(enrollment minimum 10 / max 15 participants)*



Grades: 7 & 8

Drop-in on Thursdays 5:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.

Fee: FREE (residents)

Winter Drop-ins: 1/11/24 - 3/14/24

Stop by with your friends for a couple of hours to relax and have fun. Watch a movie, have a Nintendo Switch battle, play board games, trade Pokémon cards, or just hangout! No daily registration required just a one-time registration online for the whole Winter season, for emergency contact purposes. Add your name to the event "Middle School Hangout - Winter 2024" activity <https://cheshirect.myrec.com>

Snacks & drinks provided for free.

Afterschool interactive girls group

Grades: 5 & 6

Fee: FREE (residents)



Building confidence & resilience one song at a time

Monday afternoon for 7 weeks 2/5/24 - 3/25/24*

Meets weekly afterschool: 4:15 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.

(drop-off begins at 3:45pm)

Each week the girls will come together to experience a small group atmosphere focused on a single song that inspires and challenges each of them to explore themes including **confidence**, **leadership**, **resilience** and **compassion** in today's ever-changing & challenging world of being a girl. Based on that week's song we will use group discussions, journaling, teambuilding activities, crafting and creative expression, to explore the song lyrics and to develop one's own journey of self-esteem, goal setting, and more during the 7-week afterschool program. (enrollment minimum 6 / max 10 participants). Snacks are provided. *Snow make-up day 4/1/2024

R.I.S.E Boys' Afterschool Club

Grades: 4 & 5

Fee: FREE (residents)

Wednesday afternoon for 7 weeks 1/10/24 - 3/6/24*

Meets weekly afterschool: 4:15 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.

(drop-off begins at 3:45pm)



The purpose of R.I.S.E is to give boys a safe after-school environment where they can discuss issues and events going on in their lives, in a fun, active, and inviting manner. Each week boys will participate in open discussions, team building exercises, and fun critical thinking games to engage them in a variety of social and emotional learning situations. By the end of the session, the group members will have a better understanding of themselves as well as the people and environment around them. (enrollment minimum 6 / max 10 participants). Snacks are provided.

Weekly topics will focus on the core themes of :

Respect, Improving communication, Supportive relationships, Empathy

Readers Review Crew: The Candy Shop Wars

Grades: 4 - 6

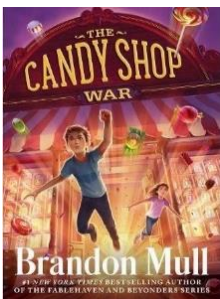
Fee: \$40.00 (residents)

Tuesday evenings 2/13/24 - 3/26/24 (6 meetings)

Meets weekly: 5:45 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



Book pick-up: **week of February 6th**, First club meeting Tues. February 13th



Join this Winter's book club. We'll be exploring the adventures of the Candy Shop War by Brandon Mull. Fee includes a paperback book to keep, reading packet & materials, snacks at each meeting, and a pizza & ice cream sundae party on the last day. If interested in joining please register online by **Tuesday, January 23rd**. (enrollment minimum 6 / max 12 participants). Reading level: Lexile: 750L recommended for grades 3rd-6th

RAD LABS Science Program

Grades: 2 - 4

Fee: \$40.00 (residents)

Saturday afternoons 2/24/24 – 3/23/24

12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.



RAD LABS Winter session is an enrichment program designed for 2nd - 4th graders to learn about and explore a variety of scientific topics with the help of their high school mentors. Through hands on staff & volunteer demonstrations, experiments and group activities, the students will explore Winter themed topics to include a penguin life cycle, states of matter, habitats & ecosystems of the Artic & Antarctic, weather, snowflakes, and force of motion. (enrollment minimum 8 / max 12 participants).



NEW! Grades: 2 & 3

Saturdays 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Fee: \$25.00* (snacks provided)

Grades: 4 - 6

Saturdays 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Fee: \$40.00* (dinner provided)

*Non-residents fee \$5.00 additional.

Do you love all things LEGOS?

Lego Creators Club is open to boys and girls who like to build and meet fellow Lego fans. Kids will have a chance to free build, play games, and participate in fun team challenges. Each session is different with games & building challenges! Max. enrollment: 15 Kids per club. Snacks included with 2nd/3rd grade fee. Dinner included with 4th-6th grade fee. *Gluten free pizzas/dinner options available for an additional fee...please inquire.

Clubs meet on the 2nd & 4th Saturday each month: Dates: January 13th – March 23rd



Grades: 4 - 6

Fridays

6:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.

Fee: \$45.00*

*Non-residents fee \$5.00 additional.

Join our Winter Pokémon Club!

Trade, play games & trivia, and enjoy different theme nights with other Pokémon fans. Movie Nights, Switch Battles, crafts and more! Pizza dinner and snacks included with fee.

Max. enrollment: 20 kids *Gluten free pizzas/dinner options available for an additional fee...please inquire.

Club meets on the 1st & 3rd Friday monthly: Dates: January 5th – March 15th



Safe@Home courses Grades: 4 – 6 2 classes offered! Fee: \$20.00

Safe@Home by Safe Sitter® is a program designed for students in grades 4-6 to prepare them to be safe and care for themselves when their parents are away for short periods of time. This is an instructor facilitated program that teaches students how to practice safe habits, prevent unsafe situations, and what to do when faced with dangers such as power failures or weather emergencies. Students are also introduced to the Safe Sitter® First Aid Chart and learn a system to help them assess and respond to injuries and illnesses. (\$20.00 fee includes a student handbook & a gift bag)

Upcoming class dates:

Sat. February 3rd 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Sat. March 16th 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Students in grades 6-8 that are interested in learning how to care for younger children should complete one of the SafeSitter babysitting courses. The SafeSitter course is currently being offered through the Cheshire Park & Recreation Department several times throughout the school year.

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2024

Nominations open to 7th – 11th graders

Cheshire Youth Services is committed to providing positive youth programs and is always working to enhance the services and activities we offer to youth and families in our community. When you get involved as part of this Youth Advisory Committee, your ideas and recommendations will be incorporated into future programs and activities designed for your age group. If you are a youth in grades 7th - 11th during the 2023-2024 school year then we encourage you to become part of our Y.A.C. so your ideas can be heard and we can start planning fun activities and meaningful programs for your specific age groups this upcoming school year. This is also a great way to earn community service & leadership hours! **To become a Y.A.C. member please apply online by Monday, January 8, 2024**



Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday evenings each month starting January 17, 2024 @ 6:15 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.



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Cheshire Youth Services is still accepting nominations for 2024

Cheshire Youth Make an Impact project

Parents, youth, teachers, coaches, businesses owners, and organizations are all invited to nominate a young person they feel exemplifies the ideals of making an impact on others or their community.

Do you know a young person who started a service club, had a fundraiser, organized a donation drive, volunteers their time with environmental or animal organizations or is dedicated to working towards economic, social, and human rights? Please consider nominating them for CYMAI.

To be considered for the project the youth must be a Cheshire resident and must be between five and twenty years of age. All online nominations must be submitted by June 30, 2024 to be considered for this year's project. Community projects, volunteering, donations made, etc. that were done or started by the individual between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 will be considered.

Google Nomination Form: <https://forms.gle/A3wKAFy5fAzX71FTA>



The Cheshire Human Services Department provides services directly to individuals or families experiencing difficulty in meeting their basic human needs:



- for physical survival (food, shelter, clothing, maintenance of minimum income),
- for adequate preparation for and help in sustaining gainful employment (employment and training programs, child and adult day care),
- for social support and interaction, especially in time of personal or family crisis (social services, counseling services),
- for assistance in overcoming specific pathologies (health, mental health, and substance abuse), and
- for help in gaining access to available, appropriate services (information and referral transportation).

The Cheshire Human Services Department operates a comprehensive program of social and youth services for the Cheshire community. For information on Youth programs, Counseling and Social Service programs, please contact us: e-mail cheshireyouthservices@chshirect.org or phone 203-271-6690.

Michelle Piccerillo
Director of Human Services
MPiccerillo@CheshireCT.org

Kristen Cherry
Town Social Worker
KCherry@CheshireCT.org

Kevin Lardner
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Counselor
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Lauren Blackwell-Rynich
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Alex Shoudy
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Vickie Pagan
Youth & Family Counselor
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Fatime Yusuf
Youth & Family Counselor
fyusuf@CheshireCT.org

Mary Thompson-Kelly
Administrative Assistant



Human Service offices have moved to 19 Wallingford Road. Office hours are 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM or by appointment. You can reach the Yellow House for youth programming questions at 203-271-2769. Please call to leave a message at any time.



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WINTER '24 Yellow House Activities for 5th-8th Graders



Visit our new WEBSITE for REGISTRATION and online Payment: <https://cheshirect.myrec.com>
 (Events are limited to 40 kids at Park & Rec. Building or on Field Trips / 25 kids max. if indoors at Yellow House)

January 2024

Sat. Jan. 6th Yoga & Yogurt Parfait Night Fee: \$10.00 Grades: 6th-8th 6:30-9:30 p.m. Location: Yellow House



Sometimes you just need to take a deep breath & relax. A Yoga instructor will guide you through a variety of poses & relaxation techniques. Make your own yogurt parfait, including fresh berries, granola, coconut, chocolate chips and more! Design a relaxing mini Zen garden and meditation bracelet that you can take home with you. Min. 6/Max. 12 *Note: No Dinner will be served only light snack yogurt parfait and beverages.*



Fri. Jan. 12th GIANT Classic Board Game Night Grades: 5th & 6th 6:00-9:00 p.m. Location: Park & Rec.



Have the Winter Blues? Grab a friend, come in your comfy PJ's and join us for a fun night playing the GIANT-sized versions of your favorite classic games including Sorry, Monopoly, CLUE, Jenga, Life, Uno and more! We'll have pizza & an ice cream sundae station too!

NERF WARS 2 Dates: **Sat. Jan. 20th** Grades: 7th & 8th 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Location: Park & Rec. **Fri. Jan. 26th** Grades: 5th & 6th 6:00-9:00 p.m.



Bring your own NERF equipment and battle it out in our indoor arena. Pick your team color (using an online signup after initial registration), dress the part and play classic games such as Capture the Flag, Free for All, and Team Battles all centered around fun, friendly competition. Pizza & drinks included.

February 2024

Sat. Feb. 3rd Crazy Utensils Spaghetti Supper & Movie Night Grades: 5th & 6th 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Location: Park & Rec.



Time to play with your food! Enjoy a silly & messy crazy utensil spaghetti supper. Spin our wheel to determine your utensil for the night. We'll also be watching the movie *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* (PG) and play a few spaghetti themed team games throughout the night to continue the fun.

Fri. Feb. 9th Super Bowl LVIII Kickoff Party Grades: 6th - 8th 6:00-9:00 p.m. Location: Yellow House



Get ready for the Super Bowl and show your football spirit by wearing your favorite team's jersey, hat and other fan memorabilia. Answer football related trivia, play games. Enjoy a large grinder with the works, chips & dip, and football themed snacks. We'll even watch a classic football themed movie. *Note: Grinder dinner will be served.*

March 2024

Sat. March 2nd Painting, Cookies & Cocoa Fee: \$15.00 2 sessions: Grades: 5th & 6th 3:30 -5:30 p.m.
Location: Yellow House Grades: 7th & 8th 6:15-8:15 p.m.



Instructor lead step-by-step watercolor workshop. Learn different techniques and create several works of art to take home. Registration includes all paint supplies needed, hot cocoa and cookies. Min. 5/Max 10 participants.

Sat. March 16th Sockey & Mighty Ducks Movie (PG) Grades: 5th & 6th 6:30-9:00 p.m.
Location: Park & Rec.



Join us for a fun night of "Sockey". This is just traditional hockey, but played indoors in socks with foam sticks and balls. We'll also have *Mighty Ducks* playing while you enjoy popcorn & winter themed treats.

Trips on the back →



Field Trips for 6th-8th Graders



Fri. Feb. 23, 2024 **Fire & Ice @ Sports Center of CT, Shelton, CT** **Fee: \$45.00 /pp**
Time: 5:45-10:15 p.m. *Online Registration Deadline: February 13, 2024*



We'll spend the night at CT Sports Center ice skating & playing laser tag in the Ultimate Star-Force themed arena, with multiple levels of play and interactive music. Pizza Dinner included.

Fri. March 8, 2024 **IT! Adventures Ropes Course, New Haven, CT** **Fee: \$40.00 /pp**
Time: 5:30-9:00 p.m. *Online Registration Deadline: February 26, 2024*



Experience the largest indoor ropes course in the world. You'll have 2 hours to explore the heart-pumping four-level ropes course + zip rails sitting at heights up to 56 feet. There is no set path; you can explore in whatever direction and how high you choose. Try one of the 4 different climbing walls. Pizza dinner included.

Fri. March, 22, 2024 **Urban Air Adventure Park, Orange, CT** **Fee: \$45.00 /pp**
Time: 5:30-9:00 p.m. *Online Registration Deadline: March 11, 2024*



2 full hours of fun! Trampolines, bumper cars, trapeze, battle beam, warrior & ropes course, and climbing walls. Pizza dinner plus bottle of water at facility included.

More trips & programs coming this Spring...check our website or Facebook page with updates.

Financial assistance for our programs and trips is available for those who qualify, please inquire by calling our office and speaking with Kristen Cherry, Town Social Worker



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